

In the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings include changes to Figure 1B. This sheet replaces the original sheet, including Figures 1A and 1B.

REMARKS

Amendments

Revisions to the Specification and Drawings

The Examiner requested correction of certain errors in the specification and drawings. In response, Applicant has amended the specification and drawings accordingly. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out that Applicant regards the invention as protecting an individual computer through a firewall operating within the individual computer. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Restriction Requirement

On August 5, 2004, Applicant elected to prosecute claims 1-32 (Group I) without traverse in a telephone call with the Examiner. Accordingly, claims 33-40 have been cancelled from the present application without prejudice.

Objections

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 5, 10, 17, 21, 25, 28-33 and 37 as containing informalities. Claims 33 and 37 have been cancelled as a result of the restriction requirement. Applicant has corrected the informalities in the other claims and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection.

Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-32

Claims 1-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Coss et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,098,172. Claim 22 has been cancelled. Applicant does not admit that reference is prior art and reserves the right to swear behind the reference at a later

date. Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 1-21 and 23-32 is not anticipated by Coss.

Coss discloses a firewall system that is coupled between computers and networks to control data packets transmitted to and from the networks. Network interfaces within the firewall system handle the data transmission. The firewall system imposes security policies on the data packets based on the source and destination addresses within the packet headers. Coss also discloses that each network interface may be associated with a domain, or with multiple sub-domains, and that the security policies may also be domain-based. Coss suggests that the domains are permanently assigned to the network interfaces because the administrator configures the firewall system for a particular set of networks.

In contrast, Applicant's invention as claimed configures a firewall that operates within an individual computer to protect the individual computer. Furthermore, the appropriate configuration for the firewall is based on a network address dynamically associated with a network adapter in the individual computer as illustrated in Figures 1A-B and described in the specification at line 16 on page 5 through line 10 on page 6.

Applicant notes that the Examiner did not particularly reject claim 22 in the Office Action. The subject matter of claim 22 has been incorporated into claim 21 to clarify that the firewall process of claim 22 is executing with the individual computer to be protected. If the Examiner maintains his rejection of claim 21, Applicant respectfully requests he particularly point out the teaching in Coss that he believes anticipates the claimed firewall process.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claimed in claims 1-21 and 23-32 is not anticipated by Coss under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

SUMMARY

Claims 1-21 and 23-32 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-8300 x309.

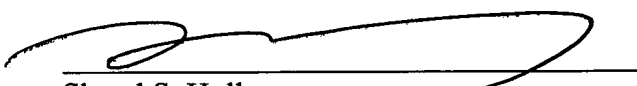
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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